

INFORMATION
ABOUT GOING TO LIBERIA:

WITH
THINGS WHICH EVERY EMIGRANT OUGHT TO KNOW:

REPORT OF
MESSRS. FULLER AND JANIFER:

SKETCH OF
THE HISTORY OF LIBERIA:

AND THE
CONSTITUTION
OF THE
REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA.

PUBLISHED BY THE AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

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INFORMATION ABOUT GOING TO LIBERIA.

For the information of all persons who may contemplate emigrating to Liberia, we have prepared the following statement of facts, exhibiting, in a condensed form, the most important subjects, in reference to which we presume information may be desired :

TIME OF SENDING EXPEDITIONS.

Hereafter, it is our intention to send a vessel from Baltimore regularly on the 1st of May, and the 1st of November, of each year; and from Savannah and New Orleans at such times as there are persons enough ready to emigrate to justify the necessary expenditure, of which we will give timely notice. And if circumstances should require it, we will fit out other expeditions from those cities, or from any of the northern ports, so as to accommodate, as far as it is in our power, all persons who may wish to emigrate. We cannot, however, promise to send an expedition at any particular time, (except the two from Baltimore,) unless we can have the assurance of a sufficient number of emigrants to justify us in incurring the expense of chartering and fitting out a vessel. It is important, therefore, that applicants for emigration should give us early notice of their desire to go to Liberia, and *of the time when they will be ready.*

LENGTH OF THE VOYAGE.

The length of the voyage from Baltimore or Savannah is from thirty to forty days—the average is about thirty-five days. From New Orleans it is ten to fifteen days longer.

ACCOMMODATIONS ON BOARD.

Emigrant vessels are always fitted up expressly for the comfortable accommodation of the emigrants; and abundance of good provisions is

always put on board, of which the master of the vessel has the charge, with instructions to furnish the emigrants with everything necessary to their health and comfort.

AMOUNT OF BAGGAGE, &c., ALLOWED TO EACH ADULT EMIGRANT FREE OF CHARGE FOR TRANSPORTATION.

Our rule is to allow each adult emigrant the bulk of two barrels, or ten cubic feet, in addition to the bed and bedding necessary for the voyage, which latter it is expected, of course, they will furnish themselves. A proportional allowance for children. It is expected that those who wish to take bulky articles of furniture, and boxes of goods, will pay freight on them, at the rate of \$1 50 a barrel.

WHAT EMIGRANTS SHOULD TAKE WITH THEM.

1. *Clothing.* Every emigrant ought to be well supplied with clothing, previous to leaving home, both for winter and summer, similar to what he needs in this country. Though there is no winter in Liberia, yet during at least one-half the year, warm clothing is necessary to comfort, and the preservation of health.

2. *Mechanical tools.* Those emigrants who are mechanics ought to carry with them the tools of their trade. Indeed, all emigrants ought to have the common tools used in carpenter's work, such as axe, hatchet, handsaw, auger, &c.

3. *Agricultural implements.* Every emigrant, whether a mechanic or a farmer, ought to be supplied with the ordinary gardening implements, such as hoes, spades, rakes, &c. As the soil of Liberia is much more easily broken up for planting than that of this country, the larger agricultural implements, as ploughs, harrows, &c., are not absolutely ne-

cessary to farming operations, though they are advantageous in carrying on these operations on a large scale.

4. *Cooking utensils and table furniture.* As every family is expected to keep house, they ought to have a supply of necessary cooking utensils and table furniture.

5. *Household furniture.* In consequence of the space occupied in the vessel by chairs, tables, bedsteads, and other large articles of furniture, it is generally very inconvenient for such things to be taken. Consequently, though we are disposed to accommodate emigrants in every way in our power, we cannot encourage them to expect to take such articles. In view of the want of room in the vessel to pack them securely, and consequently of the risk of their being broken or damaged during the voyage, as well as the cost of transportation, and the greater comfort of the emigrants on board, when the vessel is not thus crowded, we would advise applicants for emigration to dispose of such articles of furniture previous to the time of sailing. In emigrating to a distant country, they must expect to put up with some inconvenience at first—must not expect to commence house-keeping in Liberia just where they left off in this country. All these articles can be purchased there in style and quality, not much inferior to the best in this country, at the cost of about fifty per cent., (frequently less,) advance on the price of similar articles in the U. States.

6. *Additional articles.* Those who can afford it, would do well to take with them a keg or two of nails for shingling, &c.; also some common cotton goods—bleached and brown shirting, calico, handkerchiefs, (fancy patterns,) and various kinds of cheap stuff for pantaloons and coats or jackets, and other necessary articles

of wearing apparel; also some money (gold or silver.) These will be useful to them in erecting their houses, and paying for any labor they may need. All these articles can be purchased in Liberia; but as they generally cost more there than in this country, and as the expense of transportation is not much, it would be well for those who can afford it, to furnish themselves with a small supply of such articles. To these might be added a barrel or two of salted provisions, in case, on inquiry at the place of embarkation, (where they can be purchased,) it is found that they can be carried. Emigrants should always carry with them a variety of good garden seed; sealed up in vials or bottles, or wrapped in paper, and packed in saw-dust, to prevent injury during the voyage.

EXPENSE OF EMIGRATION.

The actual expense incurred in the transportation of emigrants to Liberia may be set down at the average of \$30 for adults, and \$15 for children under twelve years, which, added to the average cost of subsistence during the first six months after their arrival—say \$50 for adults, and \$25 for children—makes \$80 for the former, and \$40 for the latter, or a general average of \$60. The average of \$50, as previously stated, has been found by experience to be insufficient to meet all the various expenses necessarily incurred. This average of \$60, we expect to receive from those persons who are fully able to pay their own way. The Society, however, will not refuse to send any who are unable to pay, in part or in whole, the necessary expense of transportation and support, but will give a free passage to all who are not able to pay for themselves, and will aid them in supporting themselves during the first six months after their arrival, by

furnishing them with provisions and medical attendance when necessary, and providing them houses to live in; thus taking care of them a sufficient length of time to enable them to make arrangements to take care of themselves.

ACCLIMATING FEVER.

On this point, we quote from Dr. Lugenbeel's Sketches of Liberia, in which may be found a full account of the diseases of Liberia.

"The physical system of every individual who removes from a temperate to a tropical climate must undergo some change—must experience some process of acclimation, which may, or may not, be attended with much fever, according to circumstances—to the constitutional peculiarities of the individual, his previous habits of life, the state of his mind with respect to calmness and patience, or irritability and disquietude; together with other imaginable circumstances. Some persons, in passing through the process of acclimation have very little, if any, fever, and are not at all interrupted in their daily avocations by sickness, during the acclimating process. Others are not so highly favored, and some die during the first few months of their residence in Liberia—not always in consequence of the violence of the fever, but frequently in consequence of not exercising the necessary precautions in the preservation of health: such as proper attention to their habits, diet, and clothing, to the extent of exposure to the heat of the day, as well as to the damp and chilling night-air, and especially to the avoidance of all sources of mental inquietude. In some cases, the physical system becomes sufficiently adapted to the climate to resist the surrounding deleterious influences, in two or three months. In other cases, a year or more elapses before this desirable point is reached; the individual in the mean time being subject to occasional attacks of chills, followed, of course, by more or less fever."

Once safely through the acclimating process, the individual may, by the exercise of such prudence as common sense would dictate, enjoy as good health as in most parts of the United States. In reference to this, we again quote from Dr. Lugenbeel's Sketches.

"The majority of colored immigrants,

who have sufficient prudence to use such means for the preservation of their health as an enlightened judgment would dictate, usually enjoy as good health, after the first year of their residence in Liberia, as they formerly enjoyed in the United States. In some cases, indeed, the state of the health of immigrants is decidedly improved by the change of residence from America to Africa. The large majority of cases of sickness that came under my observation, among those persons who had resided a year or more in Liberia, was in indolent, and consequently, indigent, persons, whose prudence was commensurate with their improvidence. Indeed, in view of the heedlessness, carelessness, and indolence of some persons, who were scarcely ever sick, I was astonished at their continued exemption from disease."

We may here add, that emigrants are always furnished with necessary medical attendance, by competent physicians in the employ of the Society; and that it is important to pay strict attention to the advice and directions of the attending physician.

QUANTITY OF LAND GIVEN TO EMIGRANTS.

By the laws of Liberia, each emigrant on his arrival receives *five acres* of good land, or if he prefers it, a town lot. If he is the head of a family, the quantity of land is increased according to the number of his family, not exceeding ten acres. This allowance may seem small, but in consequence of the great productiveness of the soil, it is abundantly sufficient for the comfortable and independent subsistence of all who will properly cultivate it. Any person who desires a greater quantity, can usually purchase it from the Government of Liberia, at from one to five dollars an acre, according to the location.

FACE OF THE COUNTRY, SOIL, AND PRODUCTIONS.

Liberia does not consist, as some suppose, of arid plains and burning sands, but of hills and valleys, covered with the verdure of perpetual spring, presenting to the eye of the observer, as viewed from the highest points of land in the vicinity

of the ocean, the appearance of a deep, unbroken forest, with hill-top rising above hill-top towards the vast interior. The country is well watered by many beautiful streams; the banks of some of which present encouraging scenes of agricultural industry.

The *soil* of Liberia, like that of other countries, varies in appearance, quality, and productiveness. There is, however, no very poor land in Liberia; and most of it is very rich, not surpassed perhaps by any other country in the world.

Among the numerous agricultural *products* of Liberia, we may specify as *exportable articles*, rice, coffee, cotton, sugar, arrow-root, ginger, pepper, and ground-nuts, all of which can be raised in quantity and quality not surpassed by similar products in any other part of the world. Of other vegetables that may be abundantly raised, we may specify, as the principal, sweet-potatoes, lima or butter-beans, snap-beans, peas, cucumbers, melons of various kinds, beets, radishes and carrots, besides several articles peculiar to tropical countries, as cassadas, yams, &c., Indian corn, or maize, grows very well on some lands; not so well, however, as in some parts of the U. States.

A great variety of fruits grow plentifully; some of which are, the orange, lime, lemon, pine-apple, guava, mango, papaw, cocoanut, tamarind, soursop, chiotia, and okra; to which may be added the plantain and the banana, the former of which is one of the most luscious and wholesome fruits in the vegetable kingdom, easily cultivated, and affording an excellent and nutritious article of food.

Domesticated *animals* of every necessary kind, and in any required number, may be raised with much less trouble and expense than in this country—such as beeves or bullocks, cows, sheep, goats, swine,

geese, turkeys, ducks and chickens. Besides which, numerous kinds of wild game, including deer of several varieties, are very plentiful; also a variety of excellent fish in the rivers. So that, no industrious man need apprehend any difficulty in getting enough animal as well as vegetable food.

To the industrious agriculturist, therefore, Liberia offers an inviting home—a home in which all the necessities, and many of the luxuries of life may be produced, with much less labor than in this country.

We cannot too strongly urge the *superlative importance* of a regular, systematic, and persevering course of agricultural industry and frugality, as the best and surest road to independence. While to the merchant, or the commercial adventurer, Liberia presents an inviting field for the exercise of his talents and enterprise—a field rendered more inviting or tempting by the consideration of the success that has crowned the efforts of many who have devoted their time and energies to this department of industry; and while the mechanic may take encouragement from the fact that in a growing country like that, the productions of his skill will be required; yet, to the enterprising husbandman especially, Liberia offers inducements and encouragements equal to any other country in the world. The ease with which the soil may be cultivated, the excellence and abundance of its products—its coffee, not surpassed by any other in the world—its sugar-cane, cotton, arrow-root, ginger, pepper of several varieties, and other exportable articles—its sweet potatoes and numerous other vegetables, growing freely and yielding abundantly during every month in the year—its great variety of delicious fruits—together with the facilities afforded for raising beeves, sheep, goats

hogs, and various kinds of fowls, and the frequent demand for vegetables and live stock of different kinds by the officers and crews of vessels visiting the country, as well as the constant demand in foreign markets for the exportable articles; leave no room to doubt that the frugal and industrious farmer may, with no other means than those which every individual can readily procure, live in ease and comfort and independence. And, any man in Liberia, who enjoys a tolerable degree of health, and who does not live comfortably and independently, may charge the deficiency to his own account.

CLIMATE AND SEASONS.

In reference to the climate, we quote from Sketches of Liberia as follows:

"On the whole, I regard the climate of Liberia as decidedly pleasant. The extremes of the thermometrical state of the atmosphere may be set down at 65° and 90°. The average height of the mercury, during the rainy season, is about 76°, and during the dry season about 84°. The mean temperature for the year is about 80°."

"The only recognized division of the year into seasons is the *wet* or *rainy* and the *dry* season, or, in common parlance, the "rains" and the "dries;" the former of which answers nearly to our summer and autumn, and the latter to our winter and spring. During the half of the year commencing with May, much more rain falls than during the other half commencing with November. As a general rule, however, it may be stated, that some rain falls during every month in the year; and in every month there is some fine, clear, pleasant weather."

EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES.

By the aid of the Government of Liberia and several Benevolent Institutions in this country, good free schools have been established in nearly all the settlements; so that all parents can avail themselves of the facilities thus afforded for the education of their children. Efforts are now making in this country for the establishment of a regular collegiate Institution in Liberia,

which it is hoped will soon be put into operation. And here we may state a fact very encouraging in view of the future prosperity of Liberia: as a general rule, the children born there are as far advanced in education as children of the same age in most communities in this country. The privilege of having their children properly educated and thus prepared for future usefulness and happiness, is one worthy of the consideration of the free people of color in the United States.

POLITICAL PRIVILEGES.

The government of the Republic of Liberia may, in every essential particular, be regarded as a miniature representation of the Government of the United States; and the citizens of that Republic enjoy equal privileges with the white citizens of this country. Colored emigrants are invested with the rights and privileges of citizenship immediately on their arrival; but no white person is, under any circumstances, allowed to become a citizen; consequently, white residents cannot hold any office in the Government, or have the privilege of voting.

RELIGIOUS PRIVILEGES.

Not the least among the privileges enjoyed by the citizens of Liberia are those which pertain to the worship of the Almighty Ruler of the Universe, whose providential superintendence has been so signally exhibited in the establishment and progress of that Republic. And perhaps in no other country in the world are the ordinances of Christianity and the ceremonies of divine worship observed with more strictness and regularity. Probably a larger proportion of the citizens of Liberia are members of some Christian Church, than of any other people in the world. In every settlement, there is one place, or more, of public worship, in which reli-

gious services are regularly held.—And several of the pulpits are stately filled by men brought up and educated in Liberia, and exhibiting talents and qualifications highly creditable to themselves and to the institutions at which they were educated.

CONCLUDING REMARKS.

In conclusion, we would make a few general remarks. And first, in reference to the *advantages* of the emigration of the free people of color from this country to Liberia: these are of a three-fold character, having reference to themselves, to their children, and to the native inhabitants of Africa. A comparison of the condition of the citizens of Liberia with that of the free colored people in this country, drawn from actual observations, must convince every candid observer that the social, political, and religious condition of the former is greatly superior to that of the latter. The free man of color may, therefore, confidently expect to better his own condition by removing to Liberia, where he can enjoy privileges of which he is virtually deprived in every part of this country. Not only can he better his own condition by emigrating to Liberia, but if he is the father of a family of children, he cannot but desire that they should receive the inestimable benefits of intellectual training—benefits that are there freely extended to all, but which can be enjoyed by colored children to a very limited extent in the United States. A country in which our children may be introduced into the temple of knowledge, and may compete with all other aspirants, on the score of merit alone; and in which they may enter the avenues of commercial enterprise, of professional distinction and usefulness, or of political rivalry, with the privilege and prospect of being elevated to a position as high as

any occupied by their fellow-men in the same community; is certainly vastly preferable to one in which such privileges cannot exist. But, not only in view of bettering their own condition, and affording their children facilities for acquiring an education, and thus becoming qualified to occupy positions of dignity, honor, and responsibility among their fellow-citizens, should the free colored people of this country desire to emigrate to Liberia: among other inducements, that of being instrumental in elevating the benighted native inhabitants of Africa to the true position and dignity of men, deserves the serious consideration of those to whom the finger of Divine Providence clearly points as best calculated to rescue that land from the thralldom of ignorance, and the debasing influences of superstition.

If colored men cannot understand and appreciate such advantages as these, it is not worth their while to go to Liberia! Those, on the contrary, who can and do appreciate them, and who fully resolve to emigrate cheerfully and with a determination to try to overcome every obstacle that may be presented, may confidently expect to live more easily, more comfortably, and more independently, than they can in this country; and may enjoy the satisfaction of aiding in laying the foundation for a great nation, in maturing institutions and laws for the government of a great people, and in redeeming an immense continent from the worst of Pagan darkness and superstition—a work infinitely more sublime and glorious than can possibly be performed by any of the colored people in *this country*, however favored may be their position, enlarged their opportunities, and determined their energy and perseverance!

Things which every Emigrant to Liberia ought to know.

It is important that all persons who contemplate going to Liberia, should be fully and correctly informed in regard to their prospects.

1. *They should understand that they are going to a comparatively new country;* and, consequently, that they must carry with them the courage and energy to bear the burdens, and to surmount the obstacles naturally belonging to such a state of things.

2. *They must expect to begin life for themselves.* They will not have any friends there who will think and act and contrive and plan for them. They must rely on themselves. They receive a tract of land, in its wild and uncultivated state, and if it is ever cleared and planted, they must do it. They must build a house for themselves, and begin to keep house. And if they have but few of the necessities, and none of the conveniences and luxuries of house-keeping, still they must not be discouraged, but "struggle on and struggle ever." Brighter days will come. Every brilliant noon must be preceded by its morning. They must not despise the day of small things, but cheered and sustained by the example of many around them, who commenced life just as they are doing, and are now comfortable and happy, they must press their way onward, and, they will find that industry and perseverance will secure to them plenty and happiness.

3. *They must not depend upon the Colonization Society.* The business of the Society is to help them to get to that country, where they can thenceforward help themselves. Many persons have supposed that the Society would do every thing for them; pay their passage, furnish them every thing to eat and drink after they get to Liberia, and let them live in ease. But the truth is far otherwise. And hence, when they reach Liberia, and begin to find provisions running low, and are made to understand that the time has arrived when they must support themselves, they become offended, abuse the colony and the Society, and pretty nearly everybody and every thing else, and then perhaps they write home to their friends, and advise them not to come to so horrible a place. "These things ought not so to be."

4. *They must expect to work for their living.* How else can they hope to live? Liberia is no unearthly paradise. If men there have not money enough to live on, they must make a living some other way. By the labor of their heads or the labor of their hands, they must get bread for themselves. And it would be well for

them to understand that there is no business more honorable or more important to the welfare of the colony, and profitable to the individual, than the cultivation of the soil. It always yields a liberal reward to the industry of the husbandman.

5. *They ought to be impressed with a sense of the responsibility which will devolve upon them, as members of a free and independent government.* Every citizen of Liberia must consider himself as one of the builders of a great and cultivated nation, a Christian Commonwealth, on the shores of a barbarous continent. The very circumstances in which they are placed, stimulates them to action, and furnishes exciting motives for elevated sentiments and noble conduct.

Persons, therefore, who contemplate going to Liberia, ought to understand beforehand the nature of the duties they will be called to perform. On their arrival there, they will be invested with all the rights of citizens: they must vote at elections, and consider and decide upon the measures most necessary to secure the welfare of the citizens and the stability of the government. The highest offices in the commonwealth are within their reach. They may aspire to them, and, if sufficiently intelligent and virtuous, they may ultimately reach them.

What a reward is thus held out to inspire a pure ambition, and incite a determined effort? Liberia is destined to enlarge itself for ages, and gather within its expanding influence multitudes of the present and millions of the future generations! Interest and duty, hope and fear, patriotism and religion, self-respect and stern necessity, all combine and urge them to act with manly courage and unbending fidelity.

6. *They ought to be sensible that, not only for themselves, but for the benefit of their race, must they labor.* Liberia is, in one respect, a great missionary station, a great centre of light and influence, and it is destined to make all the surrounding tribes and country just what it is, and continues to be. The natives have never before beheld such a spectacle as is presented to their view in the citizens, the houses, the schools, the churches, and the Government of Liberia. Hence they look on with intense anxiety. They feel a desire to copy the example set before them. The natives and the colonists are all mixed together, and thus the style and manners of every family is seen, and an influence for good or for ill, goes forth from every individual. How important, therefore, that colonists, before leaving this country,

should be made to feel the immense importance of a correct course of conduct, governed and controlled by thorough religious principle! They ought to be made to feel that it is their highest privilege, as well as their imperative duty, to cast in their lot with the pioneers in the work of

Africa's civil, social, and religious redemption, and sacrifice themselves, if need be, in the stupendous work of spreading free government and civil institutions over all Africa, and bringing her uncounted population all under the dominion of the kingdom of Heaven!

Messrs. Fuller and Janifer's Report.

It will be recollected that a Colonization Society of colored people was formed in Dorchester county, Maryland, about a year since; but it was determined in the outset to take no definite action in regard to emigrating to Liberia, until they had obtained more full and satisfactory information in regard to it. It was therefore determined to send out a special delegation, to spy out the land; and Messrs Janifer and Fuller, two of the most respectable and intelligent of their number, were chosen for that purpose. They sailed from Baltimore in the Liberia Packet, in July, 1851, and returned on the 12th December. The following is their report, written out and prepared for the press before their arrival, and published word for word. It bears internal evidence of authenticity, enough, we should think, to satisfy the most skeptical.

PREFACE.

The undersigned were appointed in May last, by the Cambridge Colored Colonization Society of Dorchester county, Maryland, delegates to proceed to Liberia, if in our power to get there, and to inform ourselves of the natural advantages of the country, the character of the government, and the present condition and prospects of its inhabitants, and to see what might be the inducements to emigrate. We applied to the Maryland State Colonization Society for a free passage, which they granted us, in the Liberia Packet, out and back to the United States. The following report was drawn up by us, and completed on our passage home, every sentence and word just as it now stands. It is not so full as it might be, but we think it contains all the essentials, and all that was required of us by the Society which sent us. On arriving home, we concluded it best to have it printed, that it might be circulated among our friends in Dorchester county and elsewhere, all of whom we could not expect to meet face to face. We have endeavored to do our duty, have examined carefully and candidly, without bias or prejudice, and have made an honest, fair report, without fear or favor. In the main, our impressions are favorable, and so we have expressed ourselves; and it is

our intention speedily to seek in Liberia a home for ourselves and families, leaving others to act as they see fit. This report is respectfully submitted, not only to the Society and our own personal friends, but to the public in general,

By their obedient servants,

BENJ. JANIFER,

THOMAS FULLER, JR.

Baltimore, Dec. 17, 1851.

To the President of the Dorchester Co. African Colonization Society:

SIR:—In the performance of our duty, as set forth in a resolution of this Society, adopted prior to our embarkation for Liberia, in reference to us as the committee chosen to proceed to Africa for personal observation for the benefit of this Society, we proceed to make the following general report:

On Saturday, July 19, we embarked on board of the Liberia Packet, and after a pleasant passage of thirty-two days, we arrived at Monrovia, August 28, 1851.

First, upon inquiry and observation, we found the government of Liberia to be of a republican form; the chief magistrate of the State is elected by the people, and the people are represented in their legislative bodies by those of their own choice by ballot, whom they think best qualified, and with whom they believe their interest and privileges will be the safest. The President's cabinet is appointed by himself, with the consent of the Senate. The commissioned officers of the republic are also appointed by the President. We subjoin a list of the names of the public officers in the republic, with their respective salaries:

J. J. Roberts, President, \$1500 per annum.

A. D. Williams, Vice-President, \$4 per diem, during the session of the Legislature.

S. Benedict, Chief Justice of the Republic, \$100 per annum.

B. P. Yates and S. A. Benson, Associate Judges.

J. H. Chavers, Secretary of the Treasury, \$500 per annum.

Daniel Warner, Secretary of State.

H. Teage, Attorney General, \$100 per annum. He also receives \$4 for each case prosecuted, in case of conviction.

John N. Lewis, Brigadier General; pay during service, \$44 per month.

James C. Minor, Collector of Customs.
N. M. Hicks, Register of Wills, &c.

LEGISLATIVE BODY.

SENATORS.—*Montserado Co.*, J. B. McGill, A. F. Russell. *Grand Bassa Co.*, J. Day, J. Hanson. *Sinoe Co.*, Edward Morris, James N. Lewis.

REPRESENTATIVES.—*Montserado Co.*, B. R. Wilson, D. T. Harris, J. H. Paxton, M. H. Smith. *Bassa Co.*, S. S. Herring, J. H. Cheeseman, D. A. Madison. *Sinoe Co.*, Wm. H. Monger.

We further observed that, together with their state officers and legislative body, they have in Liberia all the local officers that are necessary for a well ordered government, in order that the laws may not only be enacted, but faithfully executed: such as sheriffs, magistrates, judges of the courts of quarterly session, marshals, constables, grand and petty juries, clerks of courts, coroners, &c., &c., and these of the best men that the country will afford. And we will here assert that they are all colored men, and further, that there is not a single office filled by a white man. Nor is there but one white man doing business in all Liberia, whose name is Mr. Godlet, a German. These assertions are the results of personal observation and not of hearsay; for we visited frequently both officers and offices, courts and magistrates' offices, and heard the laws expounded by judges and lawyers, and saw the penalty of the same inflicted on the violator of the laws of the country.

Besides the officers above mentioned, they have a revenue cutter, commanded by Captain Reed Cooper. The officers of the republic are paid out of the public revenue. The revenue not being sufficient to cover the expenses of government, direct taxation is in contemplation. The government expenses for 1850 were \$23,017 27: the amount of receipts for the same was \$18,018 16.

Having satisfied ourselves in relation to the government of Liberia, that it is well adapted to the feelings, capacities, and interests of the people who are now citizens, and to those who shall hereafter emigrate from America to Liberia, and become citizens, we next turned our attention to the soil and its products, which left our minds favorably impressed in its favor. As for the soil, as in all other countries, it varies both in kind and quality.

Near the sea-shore, as a general thing, the soil is rather light and sandy. Nevertheless, there are often to be found near the beach many tracts of good stiff land, and that well covered with large timber and thick undergrowth. But on the banks of the rivers the land is decidedly the best: there, we would say that it is universally

good; perhaps as good as we have seen in America. And judging from the quantities of rice, sweet potatoes, sugar-cane, coffee, cassada, ginger, arrow-root, corn, Lima beans, cabbage, &c., with its thousands of tropical productions and fruits, which burden the land and make the hearts of the natives rejoice,—we say, judging from these evidences, we would pronounce that the soil and climate of Liberia is as well adapted to the growth of these things as any other climate perhaps in the world. And we would here add, so far as the products of the country are concerned, the citizens of Liberia have few complaints to make. In our judgment, if they exerted themselves a little more, and depended not so much on the natives, they would have none to make. But we are happy to state that the settlers of Liberia are not dependent on the productions of the soil alone for subsistence; for we saw bullocks, or oxen, sheep, goats, hogs, cows, calves, kids, turkeys, ducks, chickens, &c., in abundance. Not only did we see them, but we ate of them almost every day while in Liberia. And for the comfort of those who love such things, we would inform them that they can raise as many as they choose, and cure their pork too in small quantities. For we ate bacon more than once, which was cured in Liberia. In conclusion, on this head, we would say, that no man can starve in Liberia, unless he closes his mouth wilfully, and resolves to die surrounded with the good things of Africa.

As we were in Liberia during the rainy season, of course we can say but little of its climate. During our stay it was very pleasant. We had considerable rain, but not half as much as we expected from what we had heard of the African rains. It did not rain all one day without interruption during our stay in Liberia. And as regards the heat, we were as much disappointed in that as any thing else.

It is a mild, pleasant climate. Some suppose that we could not live in it, but we can; and when there, we wore the same thick clothing that we do in America. We think that there is as much cloth and flannel clothing worn by the Liberians as there are by the same number of citizens in the United States, during the months of March, April, and May. And for your satisfaction we would inform you that we wore our cloth clothes during our stay in Liberia, and found them not only comfortable, but absolutely necessary, and that we did not feel it so warm at any time in Liberia as we left it in the United States in July.

The settlements in Liberia are matters of great interest and importance, especially

when we consider that the new settlers are to make a choice or to choose a home from among the many. For us to give a particular description of each individual settlement, such a one as may guide you in a choice, is both unnecessary in this place, and out of our power to do. But we recommend to you Dr. Lugenbeel's description of the different settlements in Liberia, in which you will find every thing perhaps that is of any moment.

But notwithstanding we would say, that Monrovia is a fine flourishing town, and the capital of the Republic, with about fifteen hundred inhabitants, who appear to enjoy as good health as any citizens of the Republic. It is the principal commercial point in Liberia, though all the settlements on the coast are somewhat so. The streets are wide and regularly laid out, although some of them have many large rocks in them, and we think rather more bushes than the citizens have need of. The geographical position of Monrovia is too well known for us to attempt to give it. The private dwellings of Monrovia are like those of other towns, they correspond generally with the purse of the owner. Hence you may find there private dwellings which cost from twenty-five dollars up to five thousand. We might say many things of Monrovia; but as we will be interrogated by this Society, and called upon to deliver public lectures on Liberia, we deem it unnecessary to write a long report. And we make the same excuse in reference to the other settlements.

Bassa Cove and Edina, the next point visited by us, are rather small settlements, nearly opposite each other, situated near the mouth of the St. John's river. Neither the public nor private buildings are so good as those at Monrovia, though they are sufficiently large and comfortable for all practical purposes. Bassa Cove is one of the principal commercial points in Liberia. Bassa was settled in 1834. The population is about 600. We were told that Edina was considered the most healthy of the two settlements. But the most business is done in Bassa. The land is generally sandy about the Cove and Edina.—But there are some as fine coffee trees as any we saw in Liberia; and we would here remark, that coffee seems to thrive in any part of the coast that we visited. We were informed that a very beautiful point, called Fishtown, about three miles distant from Bassa, would be settled in a short time; and for location, we think it preferable to either of the above named towns.

The next settlement visited by us is situated near the mouth of the Sinoe river,

called Greenville. It is thought, in the judgment of your Committee, the prettiest of the towns or settlements in Liberia.—The population of Sinoe county is about 1,000; that of the town of Greenville, 300. This is not so much of a commercial point as the ones above mentioned, but still it is quite a thriving little place. The main street is very handsome, and all the buildings, public and private, present a comfortable appearance, except the Methodist church. But they are making preparations to erect a new one. Greenville, in fact, seems to be in a state of improvement. They have a steam-engine for a saw-mill, which they are about to erect, at a place on the Sinoe river, called Fish Landing. But that which seems to give the most life to Greenville is, that they have had two very fine emigrations recently, all of whom seem to be willing to turn their attention to the agricultural interest.

Any one that knows any thing of the history of Liberia, is perhaps well acquainted with the history of Cape Palmas, the point of our next visit. Therefore, we deem it unnecessary to say much about this interesting colony in our report. The public and private buildings are well built and commodious; and it will not be much out of the way to say, that they bear an air of cleanliness and comfort which would be an improvement to some of the settlements in the republic.

The number of inhabitants of Maryland in Liberia is between 900 and 1000.

The number of churches is four.

These embrace the Methodists, Episcopalians, and Baptists.

The number of schools in the colony is six. These are supported by the Maryland State Colonization Society, Episcopal, Methodist, and Baptist missions. There are also six Sabbath-schools, well attended.

There are in the colony two regularly organized Societies of Mutual Relief, one of the males, and the other of the females. There has lately been formed an Agricultural Society, which promises well. There are in operation, in various vicinities of the colony, several schools continued to the instruction of the natives. These schools are supported by different societies of foreign missions in the U.S., and have able teachers, appointed and sent here for that purpose.

The annual exports consist of about 100,000 gallons of palm-oil, some camwood, and a little ivory; also Malagetta pepper. A good business in wood—that is, camwood—can be done in the colony.

The revenue is raised by duties collected on imports chiefly. This does not include large amounts expended annually for in-

ternal improvement by the Society. The revenue of the colony is about \$1500.

The militia of the colony is composed of two volunteer uniformed companies, and one non-uniformed; these parade monthly, except on general parades, which occur semi-annually, when they are commanded by the Lieutenant-colonel, A. Woods.

The street called Maryland Avenue, which runs from Harper to Tubmantown, is a good road, about three miles in length, and is the thoroughfare of the colony. On either side of this road are the dwelling-houses, lots and farms of the colonists. The land about Cape Palmas looks rather thin, but every thing planted seems to thrive well, and, like all the rest of the land on the coast, the farther you go from the beach, the better it is. Hence the impropriety of farmers settling on the beach. In short, we find but one fault with Cape Palmas, and that is, the thickly settled native towns on the Cape, which we hope, in all conscience, will be in due time removed, to the advantage of both parties concerned. We are happy to inform you that, although the farming interest at the Cape has been neglected for a long time, the settlers have at last awakened to a sense of their best interest, and determined to go right to farming, and no humbugging about the matter. And in order to give life and energy to the cause, they have formed an Agricultural Association; and for the benefit of this Society, we obtained a copy of the Constitution of said association.

As it regards the rivers of Liberia, in consequence of the rains, and having to go on board the vessel every evening, we could not get to see much of them. However, one of us got up the St. Paul's river, and the other up the Sinoe; and from what we saw, and from what we learned from old and respectable citizens of Liberia, we think it safe to state, that the St. Paul's is far in advance of any other river in Liberia, in perhaps every respect. There are several fine flourishing settlements on the St. Paul's river, and well cultivated banks show that she is far indeed in advance of her sister rivers in point of agriculture.

On passing through the farms of Messrs. Harris, Blackledge, Jimison, Simpson, Russell, and others, who have gone the right way to work in raising coffee, sugar-cane, rice, potatoes, cassadas, ginger, &c., any man who is in his senses is at once convinced that a colored man with industry and enterprise can live as happy and as comfortable and as independently in Liberia, as he can in any part of the U. States

of America, under present circumstances. —The St. John's and the Benson are also fine large streams, especially the St. John's. But we did not see much of them. In fact, we saw no more of them than we saw in passing from Bassa Cove to Edina. We were informed, however, by those who live on the St. John's, that it is a fine river, whose banks are perhaps as productive as any other in Liberia. Bexley is situated on the banks of the St. John's, about six miles from its mouth. It is said by those who live there, and by others who profess to know, that it is a flourishing farming settlement. But as neither of us saw it, we refer you to Dr. Lugenbeel's report for particulars in reference to Bexley.

The Sinoe river is also a fine, bold stream. One of us was up this river as far as necessary, some five or six miles from its mouth, where there is a farming settlement of some note. The Sinoe is like all the other rivers of Liberia, her banks yield plentifully the good things of the country.

There are many other fine rivers and streams in Liberia, which we did not see. But we saw enough to satisfy us that on the banks of any of them there is good living for the industrious farmer.

As we were in Liberia a short time, and for reasons above stated, we could not get to see as much of the country as we should like, in order to give all the particulars, and consequently, general satisfaction, (but we are happy to state that our want of opportunities and observation are fully supplied by Dr. Lugenbeel's excellent report, of which we hope every individual of this society will possess themselves,) knowing that we should not have an opportunity to give particulars and details like one who had lived in Liberia, we took great pains to compare the Doctor's report with what we saw; and in doing so, we found it in every instance to be strictly true. And further, we took every pains to inquire of the citizens of Liberia, (gentlemen,) whose veracity cannot be doubted, of the correctness of that part of the Doctor's report which we had not an opportunity of testing; and they informed us that every particular was strictly true. Therefore we cordially recommend Dr. J. W. Lugenbeel's report to the careful perusal of every individual who is interested in the subject of emigration to Liberia.*

We would state to this Society, that the people of Liberia seem to us to live as happy, and in the enjoyment of as good health, as any people we have seen in our lives. They seem also to appreciate the privileges

* Copies of Dr. Lugenbeel's Sketches of Liberia will be furnished gratuitously at the Colonization Rooms, Washington City; or will be sent by mail to those who may request them by letter, postpaid.

and position as a people, and in a great measure, avail themselves of the opportunities they have to improve their political and social condition. We would state that, on the St. Paul's river, the people have turned their attention to brick-making, and that upon a pretty large scale, and the farmers on this river are building themselves fine, comfortable, one and two-story brick houses, and furnishing the citizens of Monrovia with all the bricks they want for building purposes, and those of a very good quality.

The water in Liberia is very good, so much so that we did often speak of it. And we can say, that we did not drink of what we would call one glass of bad water during our stay.

We observed that, in every settlement we visited in Liberia, they have good schools; in the larger settlements, two or three, with competent teachers. They are all free schools, supported by benevolent societies in America. And we are happy to state to this Society, that those schools are well filled by the children of the colonists. Besides these every-day schools, there are Sabbath-schools taught in all the churches. We judge, therefore, that the children of the colonists in Liberia are educated with as little expense to their parents as in any other part of the world.

There is being builded in Monrovia a seminary, in which the higher branches of education will be taught. This building will cost some seven or eight thousand dollars.

In most all of the settlements of Liberia, we found literary and benevolent institutions, intended for mutual edification and relief. At Monrovia alone they have some three or four. The settlements are also well supplied with churches. The Baptists and Methodists are the most popular, but, at the same time, Presbyterian and Episcopalian churches are well attended.

Under all these favorable circumstances, you will naturally be led to inquire, What are the colonists doing, and what are their reasonable prospects?

We answer, that so far as we were eye-witnesses, they seem to be doing as all other people in the world do. Some are rich, some are doing well, and some are just able to get along in the world, others are poor, and there are those that beg.—Among the citizens of Liberia, we find those who have farms under cultivation with their hundreds and thousands of coffee trees, &c., growing, yielding a bountiful reward to the hand of the diligent.—And in Liberia, we see the farms and lots of many (who complain of hard times and poverty) grown over with bushes, and not a single potato planted in them. In the

very countenance of some of the Liberians, we see industry and enterprise depicted; but with others we discover the reverse. And hence the varied condition of the inhabitants. But, upon the whole, we think that the colonists are doing a great deal better than they would have been doing, had they remained in America. And they are aware of that fact, for we saw but three or four in all Liberia who wish to return to America to remain. And for your satisfaction we will give the reason of each of those individuals, as stated to us by themselves. The first was, that the prices of milk and eggs were so high in Liberia, that she did not like the place. The second was, that he could get no work to do, (but took good care to do none,) when at the same time he owned a good lot, in which there was not a single thing growing but bushes and grass. The third said, two of her children were slaves in America, and it would be better for her to be there too. The fourth, she had always been used to living in a large city, and therefore she wanted to return.

So, from all we saw and heard while in Liberia, we can but say that the colonists are a contented and satisfied people; and further, that, in our opinion, an exalted position among the nations of the earth awaits Liberia in the future; and that it is our judgment that it would be indeed to the advantage of the free people of color in the United States to emigrate to Liberia, where they may enjoy all the rights and privileges of freemen.

In relation to the natives, we are glad to state that friendly relations exist between them and the colonists. We saw many natives in the employ of the colonists; and we were informed that their usual wages are twenty-five cents per diem and board. The colonists have also many native boys and girls in their houses as domestic servants; and as such, they are said to be very apt and useful. We think the colonists who have those native boys and girls as servants, have a favorable opportunity of doing them much good, in teaching them our language, the habits of civilization, and the principles and doctrines of our holy religion; and thus qualifying them for missionaries to their respective tribes when returned. Whether or not the colonists in general avail themselves of this favorable opportunity of doing them good, is for the colonists, and not for us to say.

Signed, THOMAS FULLER, Jr.
BENJAMIN JANIFER.

At sea, on board the Liberia Packet,
December, 1851.

Sketch of the History of Liberia.

On the 21st December, 1816, a meeting of citizens of various parts of the United States was held in the city of Washington, "for the purpose of considering the expediency and practicability of ameliorating the condition of the free people of color in the United States, by providing a colonial retreat, either on this continent, or that of Africa." The Hon. Henry Clay was called to the chair, and Thos. Dougherty, Esq., appointed Secretary of the meeting. At this meeting, it was "*Resolved*, That an association or society be formed for the purpose of collecting information, and to assist in the formation and execution of a plan for the colonization of the free people of color, with their consent, in Africa, or elsewhere, as may be thought most advisable by the constituted authorities of the country." A committee was appointed to prepare a constitution, and rules for the government of the association or society. At an adjourned meeting held in the Hall of the House of Representatives, on the 28th of the same month, "a constitution was reported by the committee appointed for that purpose; and having been discussed and amended, was unanimously accepted by the meeting." And, on motion, it was "*Resolved*, That the first election of officers of the Society shall be held on Wednesday, the 1st day of January, 1817: on which day, the *American Colonization Society* (originally called "the American Society for colonizing the free people of color of the United States") was fully organized by the election of the Hon. Bushrod Washington as President, the Hon. Henry Clay, and twelve other gentlemen as Vice Presidents, Elias B. Caldwell as Secretary, W. G. D. Worthington as Recorder, David English as Treasurer, and twelve gentlemen as a Board of Managers.

The interest in the objects or designs of the Society continued to increase during the year; and in the month of November, 1817, the Rev. Samuel J. Mills and the Rev. Ebenezer Burgess, who had been commissioned by the Society, sailed for the western coast of Africa, by way of England, for the purpose of acquiring information, and of making observations, preparatory to the establishment of a colony. From the Report of Mr. Burgess, on his return to the United States, (Mr. Mills having died on the homeward voyage,) the Society was encouraged to proceed in its benevolent enterprise.

In the month of February, 1820, the first

company of emigrants, under the auspices of the American Colonization Society, embarked at New York, for Africa, in the ship *Elizabeth*; which was chartered by the United States Government. This expedition, consisting of eighty-six colored emigrants, was accompanied by three white persons, the Rev. Samuel Bacon, Mr. John P. Bankson, and Dr. Samuel Crozer. They proceeded by way of Sierra Leone to the Island of Sherbro, at which place they had obtained permission to reside, until an eligible site could be purchased on the main land. But as this was a very unhealthy location, and as these pioneers of African Colonization were necessarily deprived of many of the necessities, as well as comforts of life, many of them were soon seized with fever; and within a few months, all of the white men, and about one-fourth of the emigrants, died. The remainder sought and obtained permission of the authorities of Sierra Leone to locate temporarily in that colony, until a better site than Sherbro could be procured.

In the early part of the year 1821, the second company, consisting of thirty-three emigrants, and four white persons as agents of the Society and the United States Government, sailed from Norfolk for the coast of Africa. This expedition reached Sierra Leone on the 9th of March, and joined the survivors of the first company. In the latter part of this year, through the efforts of Dr. Eli Ayres and Lieutenant (now Commodore) R. F. Stockton, a valuable tract of land was purchased from the chiefs of the Dey tribe; and in the months of January and February, 1822, the little band were removed from Sierra Leone to a small island near the mouth of the Mesurado river, (called by them Perseverance Island,) which they occupied until arrangements could be made for the occupancy of a part of the main land that had been purchased. On the 25th of April, 1822, the American flag was first hoisted on Cape Mesurado; the site of the present handsome and flourishing town of Monrovia, the seat of government of the Republic of Liberia—the colonists having all removed from the little island, and fixed themselves as comfortably as circumstances would admit at their new home—the nucleus of what is now a sovereign and independent Republic, doubtless destined, in the order of Divine Providence, to afford a home for thousands and tens of thousands of emigrants, and to send forth the rays of in-

tellectual and moral light among the ignorant and degraded aborigines of that benighted land.

Such was the beginning of the practical operations of the African Colonization enterprise.

The colonists, however, were not long permitted to remain in the peaceful possession of their new home. It soon became evident that the surrounding native tribes contemplated an attack on the infant colony. And on the arrival of Mr. Ashmun, in August, 1822, he soon perceived the necessity of some vigorous means being adopted to afford security against the dangers to which the settlers were exposed from the treachery and cruelty of the hostile native tribes around them; and he immediately commenced a system of operations to improve the condition of the little colony. The emigrants remained in a state of anxiety, watchfulness, suffering, and uncertainty, until early in the morning of the 11th November, when a large body of armed natives made their appearance, and commenced the deadly assault. After a fierce contest of about two hours, the assailants were forced to retreat, with the loss of about 150 men. Notwithstanding their repulsion and loss, they did not abandon their design of endeavoring to exterminate the colonists. And on the morning of the 2d December, they renewed the attack, with a much larger force. But in this, as in the former battle, they were repulsed, and forced to retire, with considerable loss. During these two assaults, which were met by the colonists with that bravery and determination that were inspired by the consciousness of total destruction, in case of defeat, four men and one woman were killed, and four men and two women severely wounded, and seven children captured, all of whom were afterwards returned. The last battle fully satisfied the surrounding natives of the superiority of their new neighbors, notwithstanding their extremely small number, (not over thirty-five men;) and the time of this battle has ever since been regarded as the epoch of the full establishment of the colony (now the Republic) of Liberia on the western coast of Africa. As such, its anniversary is kept as a day of public thanksgiving.

Since that time, though the colonists have met with various reverses, and have been obliged in a few instances to take up arms against some of the contiguous native tribes; yet, during most of the time, the dove of peace has hovered over them, and the sun of prosperity has shone upon

their pathway, with but few intervening clouds. And in a little more than a quarter of a century from the time when the stars and stripes were first hoisted on that forest-clad Cape, by a little company of daring adventurers, the voice of a new-born Republic was heard asking admission into the family of nations; three of the most powerful of which (Great Britain, France, and Prussia) have freely and fully acknowledged her sovereignty and independence. And there, on the coast of that benighted land, the fires of civil and religious liberty, which have thus been lighted, will no doubt continue to blaze out in attractive loveliness, until their influences shall be felt throughout the length and breadth of that vast peninsula.

Under the administration of the self-sacrificing and indefatigable Ashmun, who presided over the destinies of the infant colony, with a few brief intervals of relaxation, until the spring of 1828, (nearly six years,) the condition of the first settlement greatly improved, and other settlements were commenced; additional territory was procured by purchase from the native chiefs; and the number of the colonists was considerably increased by accessions from the United States—about eight hundred new immigrants having arrived.

The Rev. Mr. Ashmun, who had so long labored and suffered for the good of Liberia, at last sunk under the weight of his burdens: his physical system became entirely prostrated; and as the only possibility of recovery, he resolved to sail for the United States. Accordingly, on the 25th of March, 1828, he embarked for the home of his childhood, after having taken an affectionate leave of the weeping and sorrowful companions of his exile. A few days after his arrival in this country, his wearied, worn-out body found a resting place in the silent grave-yard, and his freed spirit a home in heaven. On the departure of Mr. Ashmun, the superintendence of affairs devolved on the Rev. Lott Cary, one of the early emigrants, who had already proved himself to be eminently useful to his fellow pioneers; but whose career of usefulness was terminated by death, on the evening of the 8th of November, 1828, by the accidental explosion of a quantity of powder, in the old agency house, in which he and others were engaged in making cartridges.

The successor of Mr. Ashmun, Doctor Richard Randall, arrived at Monrovia on the 22d December, 1828, accompanied by Dr. Joseph Meclin, Jr., as Colonial Physician and Surgeon. Dr. Randall en-

tered on the performance of the duties of his station with a zeal and enthusiasm which soon proved that his mental energies, and his enterprising spirit were too ardent for his physical system, while exposed to the debilitating influences of the climate, and the local accessory agents of disease, of intertropical Africa. He was removed by death from the scene of his labors and sufferings, after a residence of less than four months in the Colony. The duties of the agency, as well as those of the medical department, thus devolved on Dr. Mechlin, who was afterwards appointed to that station by the Society; and who remained in charge of the agency until the latter part of the year 1833, when he returned to the United States, and resigned his office. During his agency, the accession of immigrants from the United States was very considerable; and among the various evidences of progress, was the purchase of a fine tract of territory on the St. John's river, and the commencement of the settlement of Edina, near the mouth of that river. Several mission stations, under the auspices of different societies in Europe and the United States, were established in the Colony; and the progress of civilization and Christianity among the contiguous native tribes was very encouraging.

Dr. Mechlin was succeeded in the agency by the Rev. J. B. Pinney, who performed the duties pertaining to that important station, until about the middle of the year 1835, when, in consequence of ill-health, he returned to the United States. The Rev. Ezekiel Skinner, M. D., was his successor.

In the early part of 1834, the Colony of "Maryland in Liberia," located at Cape Palmas, under the auspices of the Maryland State Colonization Society, was commenced under the direction and superintendence of Dr. James Hall, who had previously resided at Monrovia as assistant physician, and who remained in charge of the new Colony about two years.

In the early part of the following year, (1835,) a new settlement was commenced at Bassa Cova, under the auspices of the Pennsylvania Colonization Society. Shortly after its establishment, it was attacked by a native chief, named Jo Harris, in command of a body of men, who rushed upon the defenseless settlers, and massacred about twenty of them. Those who succeeded in escaping, afterwards located on the St. John's river, opposite Edina, where there is now a flourishing commercial town.

During the year 1836, the settlement of

Marshall, at the mouth of Junk river was commenced; and during the same year, an important tract of land was purchased on the Sinou river, and a settlement commenced, under the auspices of the Mississippi Colonization Society. In the month of September of this year, Dr. Skinner was obliged to leave the Colony, in consequence of the impaired state of his health, brought on principally by his arduous and multifarious duties; and the duties of the agency again devolved on the Rev. A. D. Williams, a colonist, who had occupied the position of agent during the absence of Dr. Mechlin, while on a visit to the United States in 1830; and who continued to fill the office until the arrival of Thomas Buchanan, Esq., as Governor of the "Commonwealth," on the 1st of April, 1839; which event marks a new epoch in the progress as well as in the history of Liberia. During the latter part of the preceding year (1838) all the State Colonization Societies, except the Maryland Society, became more intimately united as auxiliaries to the parent Society; and, by agreement, the different colonies in Liberia, except the Maryland Colony, were consolidated under one Government, to be called the Commonwealth of Liberia; and Thomas Buchanan, Esq., who had spent one year at Bassa Cove as agent for the New York and Pennsylvania Societies, was appointed Governor of the Commonwealth; which office he filled with dignity and great usefulness about two years and a half, when (on the 3d September, 1841,) Liberia and the American Colonization Society were deprived by death of his valuable services—a loss that was keenly felt and deeply lamented by all who felt interested in the prosperity of Liberia, on both sides of the Atlantic.

During the administration of Governor Buchanan, the foundation of the Liberian enterprise was more firmly established than it had ever been before; and general prosperity prevailed throughout the different settlements. The several departments of the Government were more systematically arranged, and more attention was given to agriculture and education than in former years. The citizens of Liberia were thus better prepared to assume the entire responsibilities of self-government.

By the death of Governor Buchanan, the management of the Government devolved on General Joseph J. Roberts, the Lieutenant Governor, who was appointed Governor of the Commonwealth by the Colonization Society, soon after the melancholy tidings of the death of Governor

Buchanan reached the United States; and who continued to fill the office with dignity and acceptability, under the auspices of the Society, until the establishment of the Republic, and the consequent new organization of the Government. In the month of July, 1847, a Convention of delegates, elected by the people, met at Monrovia, and formed the Constitution of the REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA, which, with a Declaration of Independence, was adopted by the people, and published to the world. In the month of October of that year, Governor Roberts was elected, and on the 3d of January, 1848, was regularly installed, the first President of the Republic. At the regular election in May, 1849, he was re-elected for two years longer; and was again re-elected in May, 1851.

Since the establishment of the Republic, several large and important tracts of territory have been secured by purchase from the native chiefs, and to the close of 1851, upwards of two thousand immigrants from the United States have been added to the population; the whole number of which is now (April, 1852) estimated at between six and seven thousand, exclusive of the native inhabitants, one hundred and fifty to two hundred thousand of whom reside within the territory, and are subject to the laws, of the Republic; and many of whom, through the example, influence, and agency of the citizens and Government of Liberia, have been brought, not only within the pale of civilization, but to a practical realization of the sublime truths and transcendent blessings of our holy Christianity. And through the instrumentality of the Government of Liberia, much has been done, directly as well as indirectly, towards the suppression of the slave trade; which nefarious traffic the Liberians have shown both a determination and ability to abolish forever from all the territory over which they may, from time to time, acquire jurisdiction.

In the month of November, 1851, a company of native Africans, under the command of a chief, named Grando,

who, it is believed, was instigated by certain foreign traders, made an unexpected attack on a new settlement, located in Grand Bassa county, and massacred nine of the settlers, including four children. This murderous act induced the Liberians to take up arms against Grando and his allies, not only to punish them for the murder of some of the citizens, and to quell the spirit of insurrection that they had exhibited against the laws of the Republic, under which they had voluntarily placed themselves, but to convince the native inhabitants of every part of the Republic of the ability of the Government to maintain the majesty of the laws, and to punish crime wherever committed within its jurisdiction. Accordingly, in the month of January, an expedition, consisting of about five hundred American immigrants, and as many friendly natives, invaded the territory occupied by the rebels, who had made considerable preparation for defence, and, after several battles, succeeded in demolishing their strongholds, and in fully establishing the power of the Government to enforce due subordination among its subjects, and proper obedience to the laws. It is hoped and believed that the prompt and summary punishment thus inflicted will sufficiently intimidate the native inhabitants of Liberia, to prevent any further insurrectionary movements in any part of the Republic.

The political jurisdiction of the Republic of Liberia extends from the mouth of the Shebar river, on the north (near the southern boundary of the British Colony of Sierra Leone,) to the northern boundary of "Maryland in Liberia," a distance along the seacoast of about 500; which, added to the territory within the jurisdiction of the Maryland Colony, makes the seaboard extent of the two Governments about 600; embracing a tract of country between the parallels of $4\frac{1}{2}$ and $7\frac{1}{2}$ degrees of north latitude, covered with the verdure of perpetual spring, and presenting an inviting field for commercial enterprise and agricultural industry.

Constitution of the Republic of Liberia.

ARTICLE I.

Declaration of Rights.

The end of the institution, maintenance and administration of government, is to secure the existence of the body politic, to protect it, and to furnish the individuals who compose it with the power of enjoying, in safety and tranquility, their natural

rights and the blessings of life; and whenever these great objects are not obtained, the people have a right to alter the government, and to take measures necessary for their safety, prosperity and happiness.

Therefore we, the people of the Commonwealth of Liberia in Africa, acknowledging with devout gratitude the goodness

of God, in granting to us the blessings of the Christian religion, and political, religious and civil liberty, do, in order to secure these blessings for ourselves and our posterity, and to establish justice, ensure domestic peace, and promote the general welfare, hereby solemnly associate, and constitute ourselves a free, sovereign and independent State, by the name of the Republic of Liberia, and do ordain and establish this Constitution, for the government of the same.

SECTION 1. All men are born equally free and independent, and have certain natural inherent and inalienable rights—among which are the rights of enjoying and defending life and liberty, of acquiring, possessing and protecting property, and of pursuing and obtaining safety and happiness.

SEC. 2. All power is inherent in the people; all free governments are instituted by their authority and for their benefit, and they have a right to alter and reform the same when their safety and happiness require it.

SEC. 3. All men have a natural and inalienable right to worship God according to the dictates of their own consciences, without obstruction or molestation from others, all persons demeaning themselves peaceably, and not obstructing others in their religious worship, are entitled to the protection of law in the free exercise of their own religion, and no sect of Christians shall have exclusive privileges or preference over any other sect, but all shall be alike tolerated; and no religious test whatever shall be required as a qualification for civil office, or the exercise of any civil right.

SEC. 4. There shall be no slavery within this Republic. Nor shall any citizen of this Republic, or any person resident therein, deal in slaves, either within or without this Republic, directly or indirectly.

SEC. 5. The people have a right at all times, in an orderly and peaceable manner, to assemble and consult upon the common good, to instruct their representatives, and to petition the government or any public functionaries for the redress of grievances.

SEC. 6. Every person injured shall have remedy therefor by due course of law; justice shall be done without denial or delay; and in all cases not arising under martial law, or upon impeachment, the parties shall have a right to a trial by jury, and to be heard in person or by counsel, or both.

SEC. 7. No person shall be held to answer for a capital or infamous crime, except in cases of impeachment. Cases

arising in the Army and Navy, and petty offences, unless upon presentment by a grand jury; and every person criminally charged shall have a right to be seasonably furnished with a copy of the charge, to be confronted with the witnesses against him, to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor; and to have a speedy, public and impartial trial by a jury of the vicinity. He shall not be compelled to furnish or give evidence against himself, and no person shall, for the same offence, be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb.

SEC. 8. No person shall be deprived of life, liberty, property or privilege, but by the judgment of his peers, or the law of the land.

SEC. 9. No place shall be searched nor person seized, on a criminal charge or suspicion, unless upon warrant lawfully issued, upon probable cause, supported by oath, or solemn affirmation, specially designating the place or person, and the object of the search.

SEC. 10. Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor excessive punishments inflicted; nor shall the legislature make any law impairing the obligation of contracts; nor any law rendering any act punishable, in any manner in which it was not punishable when it was committed.

SEC. 11. All elections shall be by ballot, and every male citizen of twenty-one years of age, possessing real estate, shall have the right of suffrage.

SEC. 12. The people have a right to keep and to bear arms for the common defence. And as, in time of peace, armies are dangerous to liberty, they ought not to be maintained without the consent of the legislature, and the military power shall always be held in exact subordination to the civil authority, and be governed by it.

SEC. 13. Private property shall not be taken for public use without just compensation.

SEC. 14. The powers of this government shall be divided into three distinct departments, the Legislative, Executive and Judicial, and no person belonging to one of these departments shall exercise any of the powers belonging to either of the others. This section is not to be construed to include Justices of the Peace.

SEC. 15. The liberty of the press is essential to the security of freedom in a State: it ought not, therefore, to be restrained in this Republic.

The press shall be free to every person who undertakes to examine the proceed-

ings of the legislature or any branch of government; and no law shall ever be made to restrain the rights thereof. The free communication of thoughts and opinions is one of the invaluable rights of man; and every citizen may freely speak, write, and print on any subject, being responsible for the abuse of that liberty.

In prosecutions for the publication of papers investigating the official conduct of officers, or men in a public capacity, or where the matter published is proper for public information, the truth thereof may be given in evidence. And in all indictments for libels, the jury shall have a right to determine the law and the facts, under the direction of the court, as in other cases.

SEC. 16. No subsidy, charge, impost or duties ought to be established, fixed, laid, or levied, under any pretext whatsoever, without the consent of the people, or their representatives in the legislature.

SEC. 17. Suits may be brought against the Republic in such manner and in such cases as the legislature may by law direct.

SEC. 18. No person can, in any case, be subjected to the law martial, or to any penalties or pains, by virtue of that law, (except those employed in the army or navy, and except the militia in actual service,) but by the authority of the legislature.

SEC. 19. In order to prevent those who are vested with authority from becoming oppressors, the people have a right at such periods, and in such manner, as they shall establish by their frame of government, to cause their public officers to return to private life, and fill up vacant places, by certain and regular elections and appointments.

SEC. 20. That all prisoners shall be bailable by sufficient sureties, unless for capital offences, when the proof is evident, or presumption great; and the privilege and benefit of the writ of habeas corpus shall be enjoyed in this Republic, in the most free, easy, cheap, expeditious and ample manner, and shall not be suspended by the legislature, except upon the most urgent and pressing occasions, and for a limited time, not exceeding twelve months.

ARTICLE II.

Legislative Powers.

SECTION 1. The Legislative power shall be vested in a Legislature of Liberia, and consist of two separate branches—a House of Representatives and a Senate, to be styled the Legislature of Liberia: each of which shall have a negative on the other, and the enacting style of their acts and laws shall be, "It is enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Re-

public of Liberia in Legislature assembled."

SEC. 2. The representatives shall be elected by and for the inhabitants of the several counties of Liberia, and shall be apportioned among the several counties of Liberia, as follows: The county of Montserado shall have four representatives, the county of Grand Bassa shall have three, and the county of Sinoe shall have one, and all counties hereafter which shall be admitted in the Republic shall have one representative, and for every ten thousand inhabitants one representative shall be added. No person shall be a representative who has not resided in the county two whole years immediately previous to his election, and who shall not, when elected, be an inhabitant of the county, and does not own real estate of not less value than one hundred and fifty dollars in the county in which he resides, and who shall not have attained the age of twenty-three years. The representatives shall be elected biennially, and shall serve two years from the time of their election.

SEC. 3. When a vacancy occurs in the representation of any county by death, resignation, or otherwise, it shall be filled by a new election.

SEC. 4. The House of Representatives shall elect their own speaker and other officers, they shall also have the sole power of impeachment.

SEC. 5. The Senate shall consist of two members from Montserado county, two from Bassa county, two from Sinoe county, and two from each county which may be hereafter incorporated into this Republic. No person shall be a senator who shall not have resided three whole years immediately previous to his election in the Republic of Liberia, and who shall not, when elected, be an inhabitant of the county which he represents, and who does not own real estate of not less value than two hundred dollars in the county which he represents, and who shall not have attained the age of twenty-five years. The senator for each county who shall have the highest number of votes shall retain his seat for four years, and the one who shall have the next highest number of votes two years, and all who are afterwards elected to fill their seats shall remain in office four years.

SEC. 6. The Senate shall try all impeachments; the senators being first sworn, or solemnly affirmed, to try the same impartially, and according to law, and no person shall be convicted but by the concurrence of two-thirds of the senators present. Judgment in such cases shall not extend

beyond removal from office, and disqualification to hold an office in the Republic, but the party may still be tried at law for the same offence.

When either the President or Vice President is to be tried, the Chief Justice shall preside.

SEC. 7. It shall be the duty of the Legislature as soon as conveniently may be after the adoption of this constitution, and once at least in every ten years afterwards, to cause a true census to be taken of each town and county of the Republic of Liberia, and a representative shall be allowed every town having a population of ten thousand inhabitants, and for every additional ten thousand in the counties after the first census one representative shall be added to that county until the number of representatives shall amount to thirty—afterwards one representative shall be added for every thirty thousand.

SEC. 8. Each branch of the legislature shall be judge of the election returns and qualifications of its own members. A majority of each shall be necessary to transact business, but a less number may adjourn from day to day, and compel the attendance of absent members. Each house may adopt its own rules of proceeding, enforce order, and with the concurrence of two-thirds, may expel a member.

SEC. 9. Neither house shall adjourn for more than two days without the consent of the other; and both houses shall sit in the same town.

SEC. 10. Every bill or resolution which shall have passed both branches of the Legislature, shall, before it becomes a law, be laid before the President for his approval. If he approves, he shall sign it, if not, he shall return it to the Legislature with his objections—if the Legislature shall afterwards pass the bill or resolution by a vote of two-thirds in each branch, it shall become a law. If the President shall neglect to return such bill or resolution to the Legislature with his objection for five days after the same shall have been so laid before him—the Legislature remaining in session during that time—such neglect shall be equivalent to his signature.

SEC. 11. The Senators and Representatives shall receive from the Republic a compensation for their services, to be ascertained by law; and shall be privileged from arrest, except for treason, felony, or breach of the peace, while attending at, going to, or returning from the session of the Legislature.

ARTICLE III.

Executive Power.

SECTION 1. The Supreme Executive power shall be vested in a President, who shall be elected by the people, and shall hold his office for the term of two years. He shall be commander-in-chief of the army and navy. He shall, in the recess of the legislature, have power to call out the militia, or any portion thereof, into actual service in defence of the Republic. He shall have power to make treaties, provided the Senate concur therein by a vote of two-thirds of the senators present. He shall nominate, and, with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoint and commission all ambassadors, and other public ministers and consuls, secretaries of State, of War, of the Navy, and of the Treasury; attorney general, all judges of courts, sheriffs, coroners, marshals, justices of the peace, clerks of courts, registers, notaries public, and all other officers of State, civil and military, whose appointment may not be otherwise provided for by the constitution, or by standing laws. And in the recess of the Senate, he may fill any vacancy in those offices, until the next session of the Senate. He shall receive all ambassadors and other public ministers. He shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed—he shall inform the Legislature, from time to time, of the condition of the Republic, and recommend any public measures for their adoption which he may think expedient. He may, after conviction, remit any public forfeitures and penalties, and grant reprieves and pardons for public offences, except in cases of impeachment. He may require information and advice from any public officer, touching matters pertaining to his office. He may, on extraordinary occasions, convene the Legislature, and may adjourn the two houses, whenever they cannot agree as to the time of adjournment.

SEC. 2. There shall be a Vice President, who shall be elected in the same manner, and for the same term, as that of the President, and whose qualifications shall be the same; he shall be President of the Senate and give the casting vote when the House is equally divided on any subject. And in case of the removal of the President from office, or his death, resignation, or inability to discharge the powers and duties of the said office; the same shall devolve on the Vice President, and the Legislature may by law provide for the case of removal, death, resignation or inability, both of the President and Vice President, de-

declaring what officer shall then act as President, and such officer shall act accordingly, until the disability be removed, or a President shall be elected.

SEC. 3. The Secretary of State shall keep the records of the State, and all the records and papers of the legislative body, and all other public records and documents, not belonging to any other department, and shall lay the same, when required, before the President or Legislature. He shall attend upon them when required, and perform such other duties as may be enjoined by law.

SEC. 4. The Secretary of the Treasury, or other persons who may by law be charged with the custody of the public monies, shall, before he receives such monies, give bonds to the State, with sufficient surties, to the acceptance of the Legislature, for the faithful discharge of his trust. He shall exhibit a true account of such monies when required by the President or Legislature; and no monies shall be drawn from the Treasury, but by warrant from the President, in consequence of appropriation made by law.

SEC. 5. All ambassadors and other public Ministers and Consuls, the Secretary of State, of War, of the Treasury, and of the Navy, the Attorney General, and Postmaster General, shall hold their offices during the pleasure of the President. All justices of the peace, sheriffs, marshals, clerks of courts, registers, and notaries public, shall hold their office for the term of two years, from the date of their respective commissions; but may be removed from office within that time by the President, at his pleasure; and all other officers whose term of office may not be otherwise limited by law, shall hold their office during the pleasure of the President.

SEC. 6. Every civil officer may be removed from office by impeachment, for official misconduct. Every such officer may also be removed by the President, upon the address of both branches of the Legislature, stating the particular reasons for his removal.

SEC. 7. No person shall be eligible to the office of President, who has not been a citizen of this Republic for at least five years, and shall not have attained the age of thirty-five years; and who shall not be possessed of unincumbered real estate, of not less value than six hundred dollars.

SEC. 8. The President shall at stated times receive for his services, a compensation which shall neither be increased nor diminished, during the period for which he shall have been elected. And before he

enters on the execution of his office, he shall take the following oath or affirmation:

I do solemnly swear, (or affirm,) that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the Republic of Liberia, and will to the best of my ability preserve, protect, and defend the constitution, and enforce the laws of the Republic of Liberia.

ARTICLE IV.

Judicial Department.

SECTION 1. The Judicial power of this Republic shall be vested in one Supreme Court, and such subordinate courts as the Legislature may from time to time establish. The judges of the Supreme Court, and all other judges of courts, shall hold their office during good behavior; but may be removed by the President, on the address of two-thirds of both houses for that purpose, or by impeachment and conviction thereon. The judges shall have salaries established by law, which may be increased, but not diminished during their continuance in office. They shall not receive any other perquisite or emoluments whatever, from parties or others on account of any duty required of them.

SEC. 2. The Supreme Court shall have original jurisdiction in all cases affecting ambassadors or other public ministers and consuls, and those to which the Republic shall be a party. In all other cases the Supreme Court shall have appellate jurisdiction, both as to law and fact, with such exceptions, and under such regulations as the legislature shall from time to time make.

ARTICLE V.

Miscellaneous Provisions.

SECTION 1. All laws now in force in the Commonwealth of Liberia, and not repugnant to this constitution, shall be in force as the laws of the Republic of Liberia, until they shall be repealed by the Legislature.

SEC. 2. All judges, magistrates, and other officers now concerned in the administration of justice in the Commonwealth of Liberia, and all other existing civil and military officers therein, shall continue to hold and discharge their respective offices in the name and by the authority of the Republic, until others shall be appointed and commissioned in their stead pursuant to this Constitution.

SEC. 3. All towns and municipal corporations within this Republic, constituted under the laws of the Commonwealth of Liberia, shall retain their existing organizations and privileges, and the respective officers thereof shall remain in office, and act under the authority of this Republic.

in the same manner and with the like powers as they now possess under the laws of said Commonwealth.

SEC. 4. The first election of President, Vice President, Senators, and Representatives shall be held on the first Tuesday in October in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and forty-seven, in the same manner as elections of members of the Council are chosen in the Commonwealth of Liberia, and the votes shall be certified and returned to the Colonial Secretary, and the result of the election shall be ascertained, posted, and notified by him as it is now by law provided in case of such members of Council.

SEC. 5. All other elections of President, Vice President, Senators and Representatives, shall be held in the respective towns on the first Tuesday in May, in every two years, to be held and regulated in such manner as the Legislature may by law prescribe. The returns of votes shall be made to the Secretary of State, who shall open the same, and forthwith issue notice of the election to the persons apparently so elected Senators and Representatives; and all such returns shall be by him laid before the Legislature at its next ensuing session, together with a list of the names of the persons who appear by such returns to have been duly elected Senators and Representatives; and the persons appearing by said returns to be duly elected, shall proceed to organise themselves accordingly as the Senate and House of Representatives. The votes for President shall be sorted, counted, and declared by the House of Representatives. And if no person shall appear to have a majority of such votes, the Senators, and Representatives present, shall in convention, by joint ballot, elect from among the persons having the three highest numbers of votes, a person to act as President for the ensuing term.

SEC. 6. The Legislature shall assemble once at least in every year, and such meeting shall be on the first Monday in January, unless a different day shall be appointed by law.

SEC. 7. Every legislator and other officer appointed under this Constitution, shall, before he enters upon the duties of his office, take and subscribe a solemn oath or affirmation to support the Constitution of this Republic, and faithfully and impartially discharge the duties of such office. The presiding officer of the Senate shall administer such oath or affirmation to the President, in convention of both houses; and the President shall administer the same

to the Vice President, to the Senators, and to the Representatives in like manner. If the President is unable to attend, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court may administer the oath or affirmation to him, at any place, and also to the Vice President, Senators, and Representatives, in Convention. Other officers may take such oath or affirmation before the President, Chief Justice, or any other person who may be designated by law.

SEC. 8. All elections of public officers shall be made by a majority of the votes, except in cases otherwise regulated by the Constitution or by law.

SEC. 9. Offices created by this Constitution which the circumstances of the Republic do not require that they shall be filled, shall not be filled until the Legislature shall deem it necessary.

SEC. 10. The property of which a woman may be possessed at the time of her marriage, and also that of which she may afterwards become possessed, otherwise than by her husband, shall not be held responsible for his debts, whether contracted before or after marriage.

Nor shall the property thus intended to be secured to the woman be alienated otherwise than by her free and voluntary consent, and such alienation may be made by her either by sale, devise or otherwise.

SEC. 11. In all cases in which estates are insolvent the widow shall be entitled to one-third of the real estate during her natural life, and to one-third of the personal estate, which she shall hold in her own right, subject to alienation by her, by devise or otherwise.

SEC. 12. No person shall be entitled to hold real estate in this Republic unless he be a citizen of the same. Nevertheless this article shall not be construed to apply to colonization, missionary, educational, or other benevolent institutions, so long as the property or estate is applied to its legitimate purposes.

SEC. 13. The great object of forming these colonies being to provide a home for the dispersed and oppressed children of Africa, and to regenerate and enlighten this benighted continent, none but persons of color shall be admitted to citizenship in this Republic.

SEC. 14. The purchase of any land by any citizen or citizens from the aborigines of this country, for his or their own use, or for the benefit of others, as estate or estates in fee simple, shall be considered null and void to all intents and purposes.

SEC. 15. The improvement of the native tribes and their advancement in the arts of

agriculture and husbandry being a cherished object of this Government, it shall be the duty of the President to appoint in each county some discreet person, whose duty it shall be to make regular and periodical tours through the country, for the purpose of calling the attention of the natives to these wholesome branches of industry, and of instructing them in the same; and the Legislature shall, as soon as can conveniently be done, make provision for these purposes by the appropriation of money.

SEC. 16. The existing regulations of the American Colonization Society, in the Commonwealth, relative to emigrants, shall remain the same in the Republic, until regulated by compact between the Society and the Republic: nevertheless, the Legislature shall make no law prohibiting emigration. And it shall be among the first duties of the Legislature to take measures to arrange the future relations between the American Colonization Society and this Republic.

SEC. 17. This Constitution may be altered whenever two-thirds of both branches of the Legislature shall deem it necessary. In which case the alterations or amendments shall first be considered and approved

by the Legislature, by the concurrence of two-thirds of the members of each branch, and afterwards by them submitted to the people, and adopted by two-thirds of all the electors at the next biennial meeting for the election of Senators and Representatives.

Done in Convention at Monrovia, in the county of Montserado, by the unanimous consent of the people of the Commonwealth of Liberia, this twenty-sixth day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty-seven, and of the Republic the first.

In witness whereof we have hereto set our names.

S. BENEDICT, <i>President</i> ,	} Montserado County.
J. N. LEWIS,	
H. TEAGE,	
BEVERLY R. WILSON,	
ELIJAH JOHNSON,	} Grand Bassa County.
J. B. GRIPON,	
JOHN DAY,	
A. W. GARDNER,	
AMOS HERRING,	} County of Sinoe.
EPHRAIM TITLER,	
R. E. MURRAY,	
J. W. PROUT, <i>Secretary of Convention</i> .	

Flag and Seal of the Republic of Liberia.

THE following Flag and Seal were adopted by the convention, as the insignia of the Republic of Liberia, and ordered to be employed to mark its nationality.

Flag: six red stripes with five white stripes alternately displayed longitudinally. In the upper angle of the flag, next to the spear, a square blue ground covering in depth five stripes. In the centre of the blue one white star.

Seal: a dove on the wing with an open scroll in its claws. A view of the ocean with a ship under sail. The sun just

emerging from the waters. A palm tree, and at its base a plough and spade. Beneath the emblems, the words REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA, and above the emblems, the national motto, THE LOVE OF LIBERTY BROUGHT US HERE.

The former seal of the Commonwealth is ordered to be used until that for the Republic shall be engraved.

By order of the Convention.

S. BENEDICT,
President.

